



THIS WEEK AT BETHEL:

October 31st, 2021

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-12pm
Pastor Dave's office hours: Monday 9am-12pm

Welcome to Worship! We are glad to have you with us today! If you are a first-time visitor, we invite you to complete a communication card, available at the Welcome Table. If you have questions or need assistance, please see an usher or greeter. **Nursery aged children (birth through pre-kindergarten):** please meet the Nursery Attendants at the Nursery Bulletin Board following the Children's Sermon. Parents/Guardians, please make sure you sign your child in. Children's worship supplies are now on the table under the nursery bulletin board. If your little gets a case of the wiggles, please feel free to join us there.

Blessing of the Costumes: We invite children to join us for a blessing of the Halloween Costumes during children's worship.

A Note from The Reverend Sonya L. Williams-Giersch at St. John's Lutheran Church, Winchester: "On behalf of our council, thank you so much for remembering our 225th Anniversary! We thank you too for the gift of \$100! We had a grand celebration & truly appreciate Bethel remembering us! Peace, Sonya"

Women's Retreat 2021 - "Finding joy... No Matter What" Friday, November 5th- Saturday, November 6th, 2021 - Bethel's Discipleship Hall. We welcome Jill Baughan, our guest speaker, who will share her words of wisdom on creating, seeking, and living a life of choosing JOY! In the midst of the pandemic and the changes made in all of our lives we are desperately looking for JOY! Spend Friday and Saturday with us as we share time with one another finding ways to live a life full of JOY! We promise love, laughter, prayers, friendship, and a weekend filled with the Holy Spirit!

All Saints' Tribute: On All Saints' Sunday, November 7th, our worship time will pay tribute to all Saints we have lost as well as us Saints who live and testify to our Christian faith today. A video tribute is being created to be shared in our worship gathering on that day, for those who have passed away since November 2020. If you would like to have a friend or relative included in this tribute, please send a photo via email to george@bethelwinchester.com. Please include the person's name (first and last), year of birth and year of death. Photos must be received no later than Wednesday, November 3rd to be included.

Assisting in Worship: Thank you to all those who stepped up to say "YES!" to the call to assist in worship leadership each week. A worship assistant schedule has been made through 12/31/21. Printouts are available in the narthex and church office. You can also find the schedule in the weekly "This Week at Bethel" email and posted on the church website. At our Congregational meeting in November, we will have another opportunity for folks to become a part of these ministries through our "Ministry Response" survey. If you have any questions about assisting in worship weekly, please contact George Donovan (george@bethelwinchester.com).

Music Ministry News: You can support our music ministries through regular giving to the **Jones/Joyner Music Fund**. Your donations help bless Shenandoah University Scholarship Students, and additional musicians for worship and special events (Such as Brass Players for Reformation Sunday, and a chamber orchestra for Christmas) who bless us with their gifts. We have a goal to raise \$6000 in this fund by December 1st to enhance special music offerings this fall and into the Christmas season. The current Jones/Joyner Fund balance is currently approximately \$3,000. Will you consider a donation?

Do you have questions on who to contact? We've put together a list:

- I need to sign up to help in worship – George (george@bethelwinchester.com)
- I need to promote a Bethel event - Kristin (communicator@bethelwinchester.com)
- I need to use Bethel facilities - Kim (bookkeeper@bethelwinchester.com)
- I have questions about giving - Kim
- I need to update my information (address/phone/email) - Kim
- I would like to provide a floral arrangement for worship - Kim
- I want to promote/display something in the Narthex - George
- I would like to submit a prayer request - Pastor Dave (pastordave@bethelwinchester.com) and/or Intercessory Prayer Ministry Team - Urve (ukcrowder@icloud.com) / Shirley ([sstrosnider01@gmail.com](mailto:ssstrosnider01@gmail.com))

Ways to Give to Bethel: Thank you for your continued support of mission and ministry at Bethel! At this time, we are not passing the offering plate during our worship gatherings, but you can leave your offering in the basket on the welcome table, or use one of the methods below:

1. Mail to Bethel at 2077 N Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603
2. Use the "Give Now" button on our website.

Ministry Spending Plan Update as of August 31, 2021	Actual August 2021	Actual Year-to-Date
Actual Income	26,946.80	\$227,226.55
Actual Expenses	\$32,212.36	\$252,680.02
Balance (Shortfall)	\$(5,265.56)	\$(25,453.47)
Balance (Shortfall) with 2021 Payroll Protection Loan Funds of \$35,408	\$(5,265.56)	\$9,954.53

For more detailed financial information, please visit bethelwinchester.com and click on Publications.

For more news and updates on what is happening at Bethel, checkout our Facebook Page and Website: www.bethelwinchester.com

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

	Today	November 7th, 2021
Church Season	Reformation Sunday	All Saints' Sunday
Color	Red	White
Worship time	9:30 am	9:30 am
Greeter (Please Arrive by 9:10)	Shari Fletcher	Beth Garner
Usher (Please Arrive by 9:10)	John Gavitt	Renee Fredericksen
Scripture Reader	Sheila Betit	Lynda Grymala
Prayers	Shirley Strosnider	Shari Fletcher
Sound	David Shoberg	Charlie Moyer



Reformation Sunday - Not Ashamed

In many congregations, Reformation Sunday is treated as a sort of "Lutheran heritage" day, a time for singing chorales and remembering the theological reforms of the sixteenth century that gave birth to Lutheranism. In other parishes, a greater focus is placed on the church's need for continual reform; the church's history is secondary to an emphasis on the issues and needs of the church today. Both approaches have much to commend them.

But the true center of this day is found in the appointed readings. In Jeremiah we are reminded of a new covenant and the promise that God will forgive, the promise written on our hearts. In Romans Paul brings the full force of the law to bear on our lives: "since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). With this reality, how can we have any hope apart from divine grace? Finally, in the gospel reading from

John we are reminded that our freedom comes from Christ alone. We are neither bound to the past nor slaves to our anxieties of the present.

Psalm 46 brings all of this together with the powerful proclamation: "God is our refuge and strength." The God we know in the person of Jesus is the one we can turn to in times of crisis, the one we call upon in times of fear, the one we trust to pour out mercy and forgiveness upon us. This Jesus is our solid foundation. In a world of chaos, confusion, and change there is a constant: the enduring and life-giving grace of God.

On Reformation Sunday—as every Sunday—we remember that we are not ashamed of this good news, this gospel.